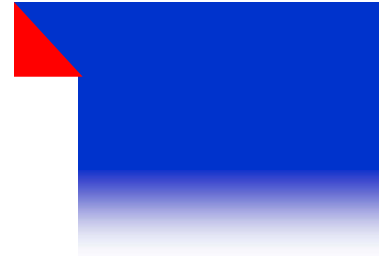


# School Discipline

## What Parents Need To Know



The month of November has arrived with affirmation signaling the completion of three full months of school. Summer apparel, beach slides and white rimmed, sun glasses are timeless items of May, June, July August and sometimes September. Sweater clad students remind us that the fall season has found its home in our valley.

Intercession, fall recess and progress reports have been a turn style of events. Parents and guardians should have now had an opportunity to survey the school campus, meet with teachers, counselors and/or the principal. If not, it may be a good time to do so. In order to establish a clear understanding of school rules, you will find it necessary to request a copy of the Discipline Policy Handbook. Your child may have already brought a copy home for parent/guardian review and signature during their first week or two of school.

“Kids will be kids”, and regardless of their misbehaviors, “Discipline with Dignity” should always be maintained by administrators and teachers. Respect is a two-way street that we must all be mindful of.

Parents, you may find it useful to know what to do if your child has received consequences for violating classroom and/or school rules.

Discuss and review Discipline Handbook with your child prior to signing. (Following discussion with parent; parent and child should sign together.)

Review together which behavior violations may result in less or more severe consequences, i.e. detentions vs. in-school or off-campus suspensions.

The school has an obligation to contact parents, in the event that your child has been injured, becomes ill and/or receives an in-school or off-campus suspension.

Parents/guardians have the right to request documentation describing the alleged misbehavior. (A parent copy of a behavior referral may be provided by the school.)

Punishment should be appropriate with the behavior violation, which clearly describes the misbehavior, i.e. excessive out of school suspensions make it difficult for a child to catch up with their school work. (Parents may request class assignments, homework, etc. for their child during their period of suspension.)

Review the school discipline policy for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> offenses of the same or similar infractions. (Understand what it means and how it may or may not apply to your circumstances.)

If ever in doubt, call the school and schedule a conference with an administrator for a clear understanding of the facts. (Always include your child in discussions with appropriate parties in the conference.)

Parents and guardians who are involved in their child’s education on a regular basis, usually has a positive effect on the behavior of their child while in school.

Be encouraged! If you haven’t already done so, contact school administration and establish a mutual parent partnership with the school that your child attends. Schools are institutions of social order and learning, and we expect our schools to help our children to grow by modeling appropriate behavior as adults. Our children depend on good parenting as well.

Parents must work in support of schools, teachers and administrators, molding relationships that induce positive and safe school climate.

***Rules + Policies - Relationship = Rebellion***

“Self-discipline, as a virtue or an acquired asset, can be valuable to anyone.”

~ Duke Ellington